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Health chiefs claim Horton plans is not a bid to save money

Campaigners of Keep the Horton General outside The Examination Schools to lobby the CCG board members before they make a final decision about downgrading the maternity services at the Horton Picture: Richard Cave

'IT'S NOT ABOUT COST-CUTTING'

Georgina Campbell
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THE decision to permanently downgrade maternity services at the Horton General Hospital is not a cost-cutting exercise, insist health chiefs.

Bosses suggest the controversial move, which also includes centralising acute stroke services, closing a further 36 acute beds and reducing the level of critical care at the Horton in Banbury, could even cost more.

Speaking after board members of Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) decided to approve phase one of Oxfordshire's Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP), its clinical lead Joe McManners said the measures were all in the interests of patients' safety.

He added: "The decision today will not save any money, it may even cost a bit more.

"There is an underlying problem where there is not enough money to provide the care longer term."

But there is an even bigger problem facing the CCG, which led it to make the 'difficult decision' to downgrade maternity services.

Chief Executive David Smith added: "The other issue is the workforce.

"The decision surrounding obstetrics and maternity services are driven by the fact we cannot get the staff to safely run it.

"And then we have issues with the cost of living and affordable housing, one of the problems we are facing is making sure these jobs are attractive, particularly to younger people."

But it is not all over for the passionate campaigners lobbying and chanting 'no ifs, no buts, no NHS cuts' and 'hands off the Horton' outside Oxford Examinations School yesterday morning ahead of the meeting.

The plan to permanently downgrade maternity services at the Horton will now be referred to Secretary of State Jeremy Hunt for review.

Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee chairman and Oxfordshire County Councillor Arash Fatemian said: "I am very disappointed the CCG did not take on board the community's feeling with regards to the maternity services at the Horton.

"Over the next few days, a case will be put together and sent to the Secretary of State.

"I will also be writing to the Chair of the CCG to ensure they do not make any permanent decisions until this has been referred.

"Overall I am disappointed as they have refused to engage and we do not know the whole picture yet and what will happen with the second phase of plans."

This autumn will see the start of a new 'public engagement' process, where the CCG will begin floating ideas for the second phase of the STP, with plans going out to consultation for a year.

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Canal Day 2016

Delight as cancelled Canal Day is back on

Sophie Mogridge
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THOUSANDS of boating fanatics are set to descend on the county for a 'massive event'.

Canal Day in Banbury will go ahead this year, despite previous cancellations after a delay to building work planned for the waterside.

Organiser Banbury Town Council says visitors are guaranteed a variety of stalls, including food vendors, music courtesy of Banbury Folk Festival, funfair and plenty of 'water-based action'.

Mayor Cllr Colin Clarke said: "Canal Day is a massive event with around 12,000 visitors – some travelling long distances to get here.

"It is good news that we can have the event this year when all seemed lost.

"I want to thank Castle Quay for telling us of the change of plan as soon as they were aware of it.

"Many boaters – especially traders – plan their year with Banbury Canal Day in mind and we hope they are still available."

Entertainment in Spiceball Park will be considerably varied and visitors can try their hand at falconry or even go-karting.

There will also be a variety of traders and workshops outside The Mill.

The council's events manager Ann Sewell said: "We have two months to organise something that normally takes nine months – but rest assured this year will be an exciting and entertaining event with something for everyone."

Canal Day 2017 was initially cancelled because demolition and construction work – part of the Castle Quay Two expansion – on the canalside north of General Foods Social Club was due to start this month.

But the work will not now begin until after the traditional Canal Day date – this year October 1.

Paul Jackson, Castle Quay's centre manager, said: "The start date for CQ2 was put back and we realised straight away that Canal Day could go ahead as usual.

"It is an event that attracts many thousands of people and is good for the town. We hope the day is a massive success and we are delighted to sponsor the event."

The new shopping facility will host a 1,300-seat, eight-screen cinema - believed to be owned by Curzon - alongside six new restaurants and a cafe, which will offer alfresco dining with a scenic view of the canal.

Opening hours are expected to be until after midnight.

A planning decision by Cherwell District Council is now expected, with a view to CQ2 being fully open for Christmas 2018.

Gardener on a mission to drive 870 miles for charity in a shed

Kevin Nicks is driving his 2.5L V6-engined 'Fastest Shed' from Lands End to John O'Groats to raise money for Katharine House Hospice Pictures: Jon Lewis

Stuart Rust
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A DAD and his teenage daughter will embark on a journey across the length of the country for charity – but their vehicle of choice may cause a few double takes.

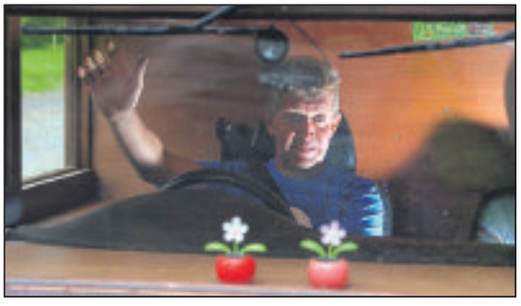
Gardener Kevin Nicks will tackle the epic 870-mile journey from Land's End to John O'Groats, and he won't be completing the challenge on a bike or in a car.

Instead, he and his daughter will make the trip in the world's fastest shed – a contraption of his own creation that can reach speeds of nearly 100mph.

Mr Nicks, of Chipping Norton, will take the speedy shack to the road on Wednesday, leaving from Katharine House Hospice near Banbury.

The 52-year-old, who will be joined by his 14-year-old daughter Sophie, hopes to raise £10,000 for the hospice, which cared for his mother before she died of cancer earlier this year.

A true English eccentric, Mr Nicks looks forward to putting smiles on faces throughout the country as he whizzes past in one of the most bizarre but road-worthy vehicles people are likely to see.



Mr Nicks said: "Driving it on a motorway it's constantly getting filmed, and you see people smile all the time. It makes people happy – which is what the population should be.

"I came up with the idea for the trip because I wanted to do something that included my daughter - something that took us to parts of England that people just don't go to. The whole thing is a complete adventure."

After setting off from the hospice on Wednesday, Mr Nicks and his daughter will head down to Land's End, from where they will properly embark on the challenge.

Mr Nicks has arranged for hot rods and classic cars to join them for a part of the route, calling on owners of interesting vehicles to join them in Gloucestershire.

The journey, which he expects to take about a week, will also include a stop at Elvington Airfield, near York, where he will attempt to break his own speed record, currently set at a top speed of 99.766mph.

He said: "The trip will cost me because I work for myself – but there's more to life than work. It's all about memories – and the more you do, the more you make."

Mr Nicks built the wooden shed on top of a 1999 Volkswagen Passat he didn't have the heart to scrap.

He had purchased the car to use its front end for repairs on his other Passat. When contemplating fixing the front of the vehicle and concluding any work would look boxy and out-of-sync with the rest of the car, Mr Nicks has his eureka moment of transforming the vehicle into a shed.

The project cost £5,000 and took just over six months to complete, finishing in 2015.

Since then, Mr Nicks and his shed have appeared on TV and radio, and met stars like Chris Evans and George Clarke.

Mr Nicks said: "We're all only here once and it's about what we do when we're here. A lot of people will get to the end and think 'isn't that a dull life I lived'.

"Some people do ask me why I want to drive around in a shed. And I say because I don't want to drive around in a boring car like everyone else."

● **For more details and to find out how to support Mr Nicks go to facebook.com/Fastshed**

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Cropredy convention leaves

Petula Clark on stage at this year's Cropredy Convention

Pictures: Ric Mellis

The crowd enjoys the Pierce Brothers, with Pat Pierce, *below*, all lit up

NAOMI HERRING
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ALMOST 20,000 people enjoyed this year's sold-out Cropredy festival as Fairport Convention celebrated their 50th year.

The folk rockers launched what was the 41st time the music festival has been held, with organisers calling it a huge success.

The sun even managed an appearance for the Saturday performances at Fairport's Cropredy Convention after initial fears that the campsite at the festival site, near Banbury, would not be suitable after a week of heavy rain.

But it dried up in time for Thursday's festival launch from the Fairport Convention and held out for revellers throughout the three-day event.

Festival director Gareth Williams said: "The festival sold out about eight weeks ago, which was about 16,000 ticket sales, so with children and all the staff and volunteers it has totalled about 20,000 people at the festival.

"For anybody who organises an outdoor event in the UK, I think you are forever nervous about the weather but we managed to hold off the rain.

"The earlier weather has managed to dry out and it has been great.

"Everybody has been very comfortable."

Among the stand-out acts to perform were The Divine Comedy and the Trevor Horn Band on Thursday, Petula Clark and former Fairport Convention member Richard Thompson on Friday and Dougie MacLean and Marillion on Saturday.

The festival culminated on Saturday night in another show-stopping extended set by Fairport Convention and special guests.

This year had special significance for the band as it marked 50 years since they played their first concert in a church hall in May 1967.

Since then, there has been a large number of musicians joining and leaving along the

fans on a high

Sisters Rosie, three, Lucy, 19, and Emily Mitchell, six, enjoying the Convention

Richard Thompson in the limelight at Fairport's Cropredy Convention

Bambi is cuddled by Jess Clark, from Cropredy

Rugby fan David Loxham enjoys the music

way but this year's festival saw every surviving member – past and present – come together for the three-day event.

They signed off the festival in style with a host of folk rock fans in awe with the traditional sing-along to *Meet on the Ledge*.

Mr Williams added: "It has been great. I have just been walking around the site with my dog taking it all in.

"Everyone has been in great spirits.

"It is always a huge relief with organising these festivals when it all goes to plan and you just get that satisfaction.

"So far we have had a lot of great comments with people telling me how much they have been enjoying themselves so that is nice to hear."

The three-day event also had a number of stalls selling food and drink, crafts and clothing.

Fiona McIlroy and Nicky Wright having fun

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Concern as more elderly falling victim to scams across county

Michael Race
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CONCERNS have been raised about an increase in scams targetting elderly people across Oxfordshire.

Gill Sanders, Oxford City Council's older people's champion, wants more advice to be given to pensioners about the dangers of con artists exploiting them, particularly through phone calls and emails.

Mrs Sanders said she had become 'increasingly concerned' about fraudsters targetting older people after hearing of some being fleeced of cash.

The concerns come as Age UK Oxfordshire warned that although anyone could be scammed, the fact that many older people live alone and could suffer from ill health left them 'more at risk of being targeted'.

Latest figures revealed reports of online scams to Citizens Advice in Oxford had increased by 73 per cent in the past four years.

Penny Thewlis, chief executive of Age UK Oxfordshire, said there were an 'increasing number of sophisticated scams designed to cheat people of their money, empty their bank account or steal their identity'.

She added: "Scams can have a devastating emotional and financial impact on older victims, seriously damaging their quality of life and wellbeing. That anyone would target an older person to defraud them is abhorrent yet it happens all too often.

"We are urging all older people, and their friends and families, to be vigilant and get up to speed on how to avoid scams. If there is any doubt about the authenticity of an offer or piece of correspondence, do not respond and report it to the authorities immediately."

Mrs Sanders, a city councillor for Littlemore, said she had concerns about scams raised to her though the 50 plus groups in the city.

She added that she had been targeted with several different emails asking her to click on a link to pay invoices.

Mrs Sanders said unfortunately she has a friend who clicked on the link because she was worried about what it was.

Elderly people have been increasingly exploited by scammers

Gill Sanders

As result, she lost all of her files, including photos of her late husband, before being asked to pay a ransom. Mrs Sanders said: "She is a bright, intelligent woman.

"People are so innocent. If you get someone sending you an email, you think 'oh dear what's this about?' It's a worry."

More than two scams and attempted scams a day are being reported to some councils nationwide, according to the The Local Government Association.

● **For free copies of Age UK guides, including information and advice, people can call Age UK Oxfordshire on 0345 450 1276 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/information-and-advice/**

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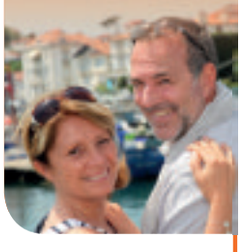

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Children are urged to keep location secret

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CHILDREN across Oxfordshire have been warned against broadcasting their location on Snapchat amid concerns it could leave them vulnerable to grooming, stalking and bullying.

Child protection charities, schools in the county and Thames Valley Police have issued warnings of potential dangers arising through social media after the photo-sharing app released its new Snap Maps feature.

The new feature, launched in this summer, allows users to share their location with everyone on their contacts list to such a precise degree that is possible to tell what part of a building they are in.

Detective Sergeant Sally Russell, who works in Thames Valley Police's cyber-crime team, said it was important children and parents understood how apps worked and the 'vulnerabilities' and 'dangers' they could be at risk of.

The NSPCC is urging young people to hide their location using the 'ghost mode' setting, and has issued advice to parents in the county.

It is also calling on Government to force social networks to offer 'safe accounts' to under 18s – with location settings switched off as default.

DS Russell told the *Banbury Cake* that Snap Map presented 'added dangers' to online safety.

DS Sally Russell speaking for a cyber crime campaign called Protect Your World

She said: "The main thing is to have an understanding of how these things work and the vulnerabilities and dangers you could put yourself at risk from.

"We are seeing people use social media more and more, certainly younger people.

"There is all sorts of things apps that are out there, this is not the first, but it's just knowing what they are and who really should be looking at them."

DS Russell urged youngsters and parents to check who could access to their location, adding many people have thousands of 'friends' on other sites such as Facebook, but do not know all of them or would want to share certain information.

In Oxfordshire between January 1 and June 6 this year, there have been 168 crimes reported to Thames Valley Police in which the word Snapchat was linked to the recorded crime.

The Oxford Academy in Littlemore bans students using mobile phones during school.

Headteacher Niall McWilliams said the school issued a lot of advice surrounding online safety.

He added: "It's a really big concern and it adds a next level to the safeguarding issue. We just have to try to deal with it. It's in society now. Of course there are negative aspects but there are positive ones too.

"It's just about using it carefully and responsibly."

DS Russell said cyber crime was an 'emerging threat'.

She added: "Technology is enabling and facilitating crime in very different ways. It's making people understand the risks and how to protect themselves."

Responding to concerns, Snapchat previously said it work routinely with law enforcement and safety experts adding they would continue to do so and encourage the app to be used safely.

Snap Map

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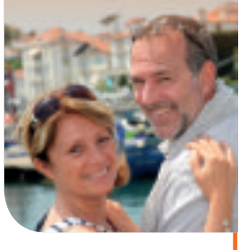

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Muddled and confused mythology

THE DARK TOWER *(12A, 95 mins) Fantasy/Adventure/Drama/ Western/Action. Matthew McConaughey, Idris Elba, Tom Taylor, Katheryn Winnick, Nicholas Pauling, Jose Zuniga, Karl Thaning. Director: Nikolaj Arcel.*

Based on Stephen King's compelling series of fantasy novels, The Dark Tower illuminates a titanic battle between good and evil in parallel universes, seen through the eyes of a conflicted 11-year-old boy.

Director Nikolaj Arcel's eagerly anticipated film has been plagued with widely publicised setbacks during production, including repeated polishes of the script and reshoots.

All of those beads of sweat and blood-tinged tears have delivered a muddled odyssey that reduces King's cataclysmic magnum opus to an uninvolving hybrid of The Hunger Games and Divergent.

A sprightly running time leaves no room for character development, and the emaciated script fails to make explicit the stakes or repercussions for the young hero as he blunders through thrill-starved set-pieces including a showdown with a computer-generated scorpion-like predator.

Idris Elba is squandered as the last in a proud line of gunslingers, who has been raised to keep the darkness at bay and joins the boy on his quest.

Oscar winner Matthew McConaughey manages to put a little flesh and diabolical charm on the bones of his antagonist, dispatching powerless victims with a cursory growl: "Stop breathing".

There isn't a single moment in Arcel's picture that compels us to hold our breath.

Jake Chambers (Tom Taylor) is traumatised by the death of his firefighter father (Karl Thaning). His mother Laurie (Katheryn Winnick) and unsympathetic stepfather Lon (Nicholas Pauling) send him for counselling with psychiatrist Dr Hotchkiss (Jose Zuniga), who listens intently to Jake's descriptions of nightly visions about an alien world where a lone gunslinger readies his pistol against a menacing man in black. The shrink dismisses Jake's nightmares as manifestations of his grief.

Lon grows weary of the boy's erratic behaviour and insists Jake attend an upstate facility, which specialises in treating troubled youth.

Instead, Jake flees to an abandoned house from his dreams. Inside, he discovers a portal to a post-apocalyptic realm called Mid-World where a mysterious man named Roland Deschain (Elba) hankers for revenge against evil sorcerer Walter Padick (McConaughey), who intends to destroy a tower at the centre of universe that protects us from malevolent forces.

Each assault on the monolith produces tremors in Mid-World and on Earth.

"What happens in one world echoes in others," warns Roland, who surmises that Jake's visions are evidence of burgeoning psychic abilities - "the shine".

The Dark Tower fails to shift out of first gear as director Arcel chugs through a confused mythology and dilutes jolts of terror in order to secure a 12A certificate.

A solid performance from rising star Taylor cannot distract attention from the painfully disjointed narrative and an absence of suspense.

The apocalypse beckons and it can't come quickly enough.

RATING: 5/10

THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD *(15, 118 mins)*

A bodyguard for hire is only as good as his last job: reputation depends on remaining alert and keeping the client safe, even when the threat seems non-existent.

Michael Bryce (Ryan Reynolds) is one of the best protection agents in the business until an anonymous sniper takes out one of his high-value clients. He loses his triple A rating and is relegated to shadowing low-level targets.

Meanwhile, Michael's old flame, Interpol agent Amelia Roussel (Elodie Yung), is part of a crack squad charged with accompanying hitman Darius Kincaid (Samuel L Jackson) to The Hague, where he will give evidence in the International Court of Justice against East European dictator Vladislav Dukhovich (Gary Oldman).

Somehow, Dukhovich's henchmen learn about the route and stage an assault on the cavalcade of vehicles. Amelia and Darius emerge unscathed from the hail of bullets.

They lie low in an Interpol safe house, where Amelia realises there must be a mole in her team.

Unsure who to trust, she calls Michael and asks him to shepherd Darius to the courthouse.

En route, the two men bicker relentlessly and Darius pines for his wife Sonia (Salma Hayek), who languishes behind bars.

EVERYTHING, EVERYTHING *(12A, 96 mins)*

Based on Nicola Yoon's popular young adult novel, Everything, Everything is a bittersweet teen romance between two neighbours, whose path to true love is obstructed by cruel fate.

Since she was born, Maddy Whittier (Amandla Stenberg) has suffered from Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID). The condition seriously threatens her health if she steps outside the front door of her carefully protected home. So Maddy is consigned to the house, where her fiercely protective mother Pauline (Anika Noni Rose) and nurse Carla (Ana de la Reguera) manage her condition.

Now 18 years old, Maddy yearns to venture outside to see the ocean and explore but she knows that every minute outside of her home could be her last.

Joe Bright (Scott Baio), his wife Mae (Fiona Loewi) and their two children, Olly (Nick Robinson) and Kayra (Taylor Hickson), move in next door. Maddy is immediately attracted to Olly.

His attempts to meet Maddy are rebuffed by Pauline so Olly writes his telephone number on a piece of paper and sticks it to the window of his bedroom. The teenagers begin texting and young romance blossoms, which intensifies Maddy's yearning to risk her health to see outside the four walls of her home with Olly by her side.

The Dark Tower: Matthew McConaughey as Walter Paddick and Abbey Lee as Tirana

Cake Bookworm

The Less You Know The Sounder You Sleep *by Juliet Butler is published in hardback by 4th Estate, priced £12.99 (ebook £7.99).*

Dasha and Masha Krivoshlyapova were conjoined twins born in Moscow in 1950 during the Communist regime. The Less You Know The Sounder You Sleep is a fictionalised telling of their real - and almost unimaginably unique - lives. The author, Juliet Butler, is an English journalist who got to know the twins very well during the latter part of their lifetimes. This book is based on taped conversations and interviews with Masha and Dasha, as well as those that knew them, recorded during Butler's 15-year friendship with the twins. Hidden from public view since birth and subjected to a variety of medical 'experiments', the twins developed wildly different personalities - one domineering, one gentle and kind. The Less You Know The Sounder You Sleep is told in the voice of Dasha, the quieter of the twins. Through her eyes, the reader discovers the twins' unique life experiences and Dasha's hopes and dreams, as well as the harsh reality of life for those considered physically and mentally different in Russia - both under the Communist regime and afterwards. It's a fascinating, heartbreaking tale of what it was like for the twins to be forever 'together' - two different people whose destinies were forever entwined, one unable ever to escape the other. **8/10**

Midwinter Break by Bernard MacLaverty *is published in hardback by Jonathan Cape, priced £14.99 (ebook £9.99).*

Midwinter Break is Northern Irish writer Bernard McLaverty's highly anticipated fifth novel - which comes 16 years after the Booker prize-nominated author's last novel, The Anatomy School. It tells of elderly couple Gerry and Stella's holiday to Amsterdam. As the book progresses, it becomes clear that there are huge cracks in the long-enduring relationship, as Stella is reaching the end of her patience with Gerry's poorly hidden alcoholism and irreverence towards her religion. Occasionally we see flashbacks of their lives in Northern Ireland, before they moved to Scotland and progressed into old age. It's a very intimate portrait of a relationship between two older people, which is an interesting perspective as so many novels are dedicated to the young. However, every time it feels like we're going to really get underneath the skin of the characters, the moment passes and MacLaverty instead focuses on some of the more mundane aspects of their holiday. The best, and most moving, parts of the novel are flashbacks to their experiences during the Troubles - however, these are too brief to feel fully addressed.

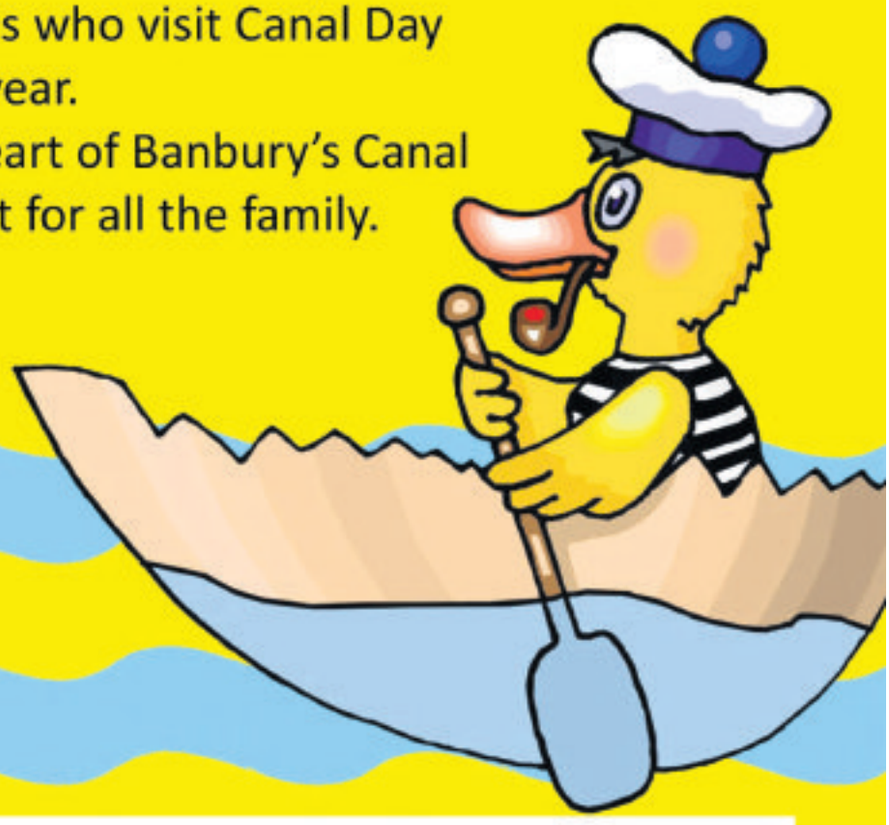
Banbury Town Council proudly presents:

BANBURY 2017 CANAL DAY

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER

10.30AM - 4.30PM, CANAL SIDE

Join us for a another wonderful Banbury event.
Be one of the thousands who visit Canal Day each year.
Enjoy a day out at the heart of Banbury's Canal side. A great day out for all the family.



Banbury Town Council

Organised by Banbury Town Council
Main Sponsor - Castle Quay Shopping Centre5

Email info@banbury.gov.uk for details

Castle Quay

Oxfordshire Listings

Events

THURSDAY

Dinosaur World: Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

Family Bushcraft: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Explore the woods, build a waterproof shelter and light fires by hand. 10am. £22 adult, £17 child. 01865 407792.

Gosford All Blacks Pre Season Training: Gosford All Blacks Rugby Club, Stratfield Brake, Kidlington. Gosford All Blacks are looking for new players to join there senior teams. 7pm. Free.

Open Garden: The Walled Garden, Wilcote, North Leigh. Bridewell Gardens and Vineyard is a therapeutic horticulture project that provides a recovery service through land-based activities for people with mental health issues. Plants for sale and refreshments. 2pm. £3.50, children free. 01993 868313.

Ramblers walk: Village Hall car park, Brill. Leisurely 4½-mile walk via Muswell Hill and Piddington Wood, includes a steep climb with far-reaching views. Walk unsuitable for dogs. 10am. 01865 358905.

Walk for Health: Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. 10am. Free. 01235 771447.

FRIDAY

Dinosaur World: Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

Knit Knot & Natter: Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. 1.30pm. Free but asked to support the museum cafe. 01235 771447.

Millcroft Community Open Day: Millcroft, Tumim Court (off Borough Avenue), Wallingford. Season Senior Living's new extra care homes in Wallingford. One and two bedroom apartments for rent to people over 55 with a local connection and care needs. Enjoy refreshments and meet staff onsite to answer your questions. 10am. Free. 0207 428 1144.

SOFO Holiday Kids Clubs: Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. Wonderful Wildlife! Celebrate the world's greatest creatures. Two and a half hours with games, outdoor fun, crafts and quizzes for boys and girls. 10am-12.30pm. £8 per child. 01993 810210.

Wantage Country Market: Vale & Downland Museum, 19 Church Street, Wantage. Wantage WI. 9.30am. Free. 01235 771447.

SATURDAY

30th Anniversary Tea Party/ Fundraiser: Heathfield House Nursing Home, 3 Heathfield, Bletchingdon. Tea, cake, pastries, music, Pimms bar, stalls and garden games. 2pm. £1 entry. 01869 350940.

Antique & Collectors Market: Kidlington Methodist Church, Oxford Road, Kidlington. 10am. Free. 01865 371494.

August Coach Trip to Coton Manor Gardens: Pick up will be from Wallingford, contact the organiser for more details. The 2017 Wallingford Allotment and Garden Society's coach trip is a visit to the Coton Manor Gardens. Tickets are £18.50 which includes transport and entrance to the gardens, pick up from Wallingford at 10.15 am and return at 6pm. Contact Barbara Caistor on 01491 835117 or email thecaistors@gmail.com to reserve a place, or pay at the WAGS Store at Centre 70 off Goldsmith's Lane, near the Kinecroft, Wallingford. 01491 835117.

Charity Car Boot: Blue Cross Burford, Shilton Road, Burford. Sellers are welcome to set up from 8am, gates open to buyers strictly from 9am and the car boot closes at 12pm. Cars £5, vans/ trailers £10. £1 donation on gate. 0300 777 1974.

Family Fun Day: Ardley and Fewcott Village Hall, Ardley Road, Ardley. A fun day raising money for the Hummingbird Centre, Bicester. 1pm. Free. 07783 414127.

Jan Harvey – Creative Writing Class: The Manor, Northampton Road, Weston-on-the-Green. Ideal for beginners and those who lack confidence, but suitable for all levels. Prize-winning short story writer, Jan Harvey, will help you to find new ideas, work them into shape, and show you how to be successful in competitions. 9am. £30. 01869 350621.

Ramblers walk: Carfax Tower, Oxford. Eight-mile walk via the Hinksey Hills, Raleigh Park and Thames footpath. Bring a picnic. 10am. 01844 214469.

Westcote Barton Fete: The Rectory, Westcote Barton, Enstone Road, Middle Barton. Traditional village fete in rectory garden overlooking the River Dorn. 2pm. £1.50. 01869 340510.

White Horse Folk Festival Ceilidh: Old Mill Hall, School Lane, Grove. With the Climax Ceilidh Band. 8pm. £9 adults, £4.50 u16s. 07855 548512.

Yoga Picnic: The Manor, Northampton Road, Near Bicester, Weston-on-the-Green. Morning of yoga, followed by a healthy picnic. 11am. £30. 01869 350621.

SUNDAY

Beginners Wildlife Photography: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Professional photographer Andrew Walmsley will help you get to grips with your camera and provide guidance on capturing images of wildlife. 10am. £80 adult £17 child (14-16 yrs). 01865 407792.

Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers: Market place car park, Deddington. A leisurely 6.5-mile circular walk from Deddington to Clifton by the River Cherwell. 2pm. 07929 924933.

Combe Mill in Steam: Combe Mill, Blenheim Palace Sawmills, Long Hanborough. Theme: Model Engineering at the Mill. Refreshment in the Riverside Tea Room and picnic area by the River Evenlode. 10am. Adults £7.50, concessions & children £6. 01993 358694.

Cream Teas: The Reading Room, The Green, Combe. 2.30pm. 01993 898348.

National Garden Scheme: Radcot House, Radcot, Faringdon. Approx three acres of dramatic yet harmonious planting in light and shade, formal pond, fruit and vegetable cages. Convenient seating at key points enables relaxed observation and reflection. Wheelchair access. Dogs on leads. Plant sale. Home-made teas. 2pm. Adult £5; chd free.

Wheatley Afternoon Care Boot Sale: Waterstock Golf Club, Off junction 8a M40 near to motorway services, Thame Road, Wheatley. 1pm. Sellers £5, buyers 50p. 07874 855514.

MONDAY

Clumps Club: Earth Trust Centre, Little Wittenham. Experience some wild adventures in this holiday club for 7-11 year olds. Different outdoor activities each day. 9am. £30 per day. 01865 407792.

Dinosaur World: Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

Women's Self Defence and Fitness Class: The Pavilion, Roosevelt Road, Long Hanborough. Ages from 13 upwards. 8pm. £5. 07834 022463.

TUESDAY

Bicester & Kidlington Ramblers: St Giles Church, Noke. A leisurely four-mile circular walk from Noke via Otmoor and Oddington. 10am. 07939 826412.

Children's Craft at the Arboretum: Harcourt Arboretum, A4074, Nuneham Courtenay. 1pm. £5 adults, children go free.

Dinosaur World: Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

Gosford All Blacks Pre Season Training: Gosford All Blacks Rugby Club, Stratfield Brake, Kidlington. 7pm. Free.

Tea Dance: Woodstock Social Club, 44 Oxford Street, Woodstock. 2pm. £2. 01993 811473.

Who's Living at the Bottom of the Garden?: Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre, Sutton Courtenay Road, Abingdon. Follow the trail to explore the mysterious lives of the creatures visiting your garden. Then come inside to create some wild crafts to take home. Activities are aimed at children 4-11 years. Booking essential. 10am. £4 per child. 01235 862024.

WEDNESDAY

Dinosaur World: Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury. Travel back in time to make your own dinosaur land, fossil collage, dinosaur animals, dinosaur mask and even a hatching dinosaur baby. 10.30am-12.30pm or 2-4pm.No need to book, purchase your ticket from the museum shop on the day. £2 per child. 01295 753752.

Grove RFC Ladies Rugby: Grove RFC, Recreation Lane, Grove. 7pm. free taster then £70 annual membership. 07970 292322.

Ramblers walk: Bradmoor Farm, Haddenham. Seven-mile level walk via Aston Sandford and Dinton with lunch at the Farm Shop café to finish. 10am. 01844 213608.

SOFO Family Open Afternoons: Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock. Drop 2-4pm. £2. 01993 810210.

U.S. Kids Fun Day: Kirtlington Golf Club, Kirtlington, Kirtlington. Games, demos and competitions for juniors. BBQ and refreshments. All equipment and range balls provided. Short game and mini golf challenges. Longest drive and putting competitions. 12pm. Free. 01869 351133.

To get an event of any kind listed here, enter the details into our easy-to-use online database at thisisoxfordshire.co.uk/events

Please add your event no later than ten days before the day of publication.

Music

THURSDAY

The Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton Street, Oxford: Lowws. Indie pop. 7pm. £7.

The Cock Inn, The Green, Combe: Nick Gill. Classic jazz and ragtime piano/ vocals. 8pm. Free.

Joe's Bar & Grill, 260 Banbury Road, Oxford: Sax & Honey. Latin jazz & soul grooves. 8pm. Free.

FRIDAY

Exeter College Chapel, Turl Street, Oxford: Baroque Music by Candlelight: Two Daughters and an Aged Stream. £20, £18 (OAP), £12 (students). 8pm. 01865 305305.

Rhythms at The Yurt, Haddon Acre, Sires Hill, North Moreton: Steve Morano & Hugh Turner. Great guitar playing accompanies Steve's original songs and interpretations of popular favourites from a variety of genres. 8pm. 07721 364212.

The Woodstock Social Club, Oxford Street, Woodstock: Anny Celsi, Nelson Bragg & Duncan Maitland. The Woodstock Acoustic Club. £3 voluntary contribution. 8pm. 07811 028875.

White Hart, Godstow Road, Wolvercote: Jamie Felton. Free. 9pm. 01865 511978.

Tap Social Movement, 27 Curtis Industrial Estate, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford: 105AD. Covers duo. 9pm. Free.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Lest We Forget, Switchblade City, Dellacoma. Rock/metal. 7.45pm. £8 (adv).

SATURDAY

Bicester Ex Services Club, Sheep Street, Bicester: Marley Motown. Motown and reggae tribute band. 8.30pm. 01869 245367.

Marston Royal British Legion, Hadow Road, Marston: Jacquie Faye. Free. 9pm. 01865 243991.

Sheldonian Theatre, Broad Street, Oxford: Oxford Proms – Summer Serenade. £25, £20, £15, £10. students, U18 half price. 7.30pm. 01865 305305.

The Boathouse, 103 High Street, Wallingford: Mudslide Morris & the Revelators. Free. 9pm. 0779 064 6028.

The Wheatsheaf, 129 High Street, Oxford: Fracture, Storyteller, Khamsina, Fuji. Local bands showcase. 7.45pm. £7.

O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, Oxford: Haze, Birthday Card, Father Demo, Milk. Local post-punks promoting debut EP *Digital Fulfilment*. 7pm. £9.25.

SUNDAY

Bicester Ex Services Club, Sheep Street, Bicester: Jamie Felton. Free. 5pm. 01869 245367.

Victoria Arms, Mill Lane, Marston: Ann Marie. Free. 3pm. 01865 241382.

Rose And Crown, 14 North Parade Avenue, Oxford: Just Friends Quartet. Jazz. 7pm-9pm. Free.

MONDAY

Rose Revived, Newbridge, Witney: Alvin Roy's Reeds Unlimited. Jazz. 7.30pm. Free.

TUESDAY

St Aldate's Tavern, 108 St Aldate's, Oxford: Osprey & Friends. Local rockers. 8pm. Free.

WEDNESDAY

All Saints' Church, Lime Walk, Headington: All Saints' Summer Festival of Music & The Arts. Featuring Aileen Thomson, soprano. Free admission. 8pm.

St Michael at the Northgate, Cornmarket Street, Oxford: Oxford Proms – Ian Brown (piano) and Friends. £12 students, U 18 half price. 7.30pm. 01865 305305.

Theatre

Blackwell's Bookshop, 51 Broad Street, Oxford: Aug 17-26, *The Full Bronte*. Combining comedy, storytelling, music, and games. 7pm. £22/£20/£18/£16. 01865 766266.

The Bullingdon, 162 Cowley Road, Oxford: Aug 26, Sean Percival and Andre Vincent. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. Sep 2, Craig Murray, Joe Sutherland, George Egg and Paul Thorne. Glee comedy. 7.45pm. £15.95. 01865 810000.

The Old Fire Station, 40 George Street, Oxford: Aug 23-26, *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. RicNic. 7.30pm. £12/£10 concessions. 01865 263990.

Oxford Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford: Until Aug 19, *Bring on the Bollywood*. 7.30pm. £11.50-£28. Aug 22-26, *The Gruffalo*. Various times. £13. Aug 28-29, *Michael McIntyre: Work in Progress*. 8pm. £24.50.Aug 31, John Cleese In Conversation. 7pm. £30. 01865 305305.

Pitt Rivers Museum, South Parks Road, Oxford: Aug 23, Cult Screens at the Museums: *Jurassic Park*. 7pm. Outdoor cinema experience. Book a deckchair, beanbag or simply bring your own seat/blanket. Ticket prices vary, book online. Aug 25, Cult Screens at the Museums: *Moulin Rouge*. 7pm. Ticket prices vary, book online. 01865 270927.

University Parks, Parks Road, Oxford: Until Aug 19, *Alice*. Creation Theatre Company. 2pm. £25, £18, child £16, concessions £22, preview tickets £18. 01865 766266.

Wadham College, Parks Road, Oxford: Until Aug 19, *Much Ado About Nothing*. 7.30pm. £13-£24. 01865 305305.

Amey Theatre, Park Road, Abingdon: Aug 19, RSC Live: *Titus Andronicus*. 7pm. £12/£10. 01235 849063.

Banbury Museum, Spiceball Park Road, Banbury: Aug 19, British Pathé Films: Good Vibrations. A quirky selection of film clips focusing on all things musical. 2.30pm. £5. 01295 753752.

Braziers Park, Braziers Park, Ipsden: Aug 26, *The Bundle – An Asylum Seeker's Story*. A riveting and illuminating play based on the true story of a family's escape from domestic violence and denial of human rights in Chechnya and their frightening and bewildering experience of the UK's new policy to create a 'hostile environment' for illegal immigrants – including legitimate and vulnerable asylum seekers – by denying access to work, housing, bank accounts and basic needs. 7.30pm. £5. 01491680221.

Cogges Manor Farm, Church Lane, Witney: Aug 23, *Merry Wives of Windsor*. The Festival Players Theatre Company brings you this hilarious and colourful comedy in an all-male, fast paced, costumed production. 7pm. £14 adults/children under 16 £9.50. 01993 703056.

The Manor House, Northampton Road, Weston-on-the-Green: Aug 25-26, *Playing the King*. Creation Theatre. 7.30pm. £18-£22, £62 for ticket including dinner on Sat. 01865 766266.

Towersey Playing Fields, Thame Road, Towersey, Thame: Aug 27, Towersey Fringe. An evening of comedy. Headlining is Zoe Lyons joined by Steve Hall and Andrew Watts. 7.30pm. £20 per ticket. 01844 260869.

CakeSport

banburycake.co.uk/sport

United make perfect start

Puritans thrash Dorchester on opening day

FOOTBALL

TWO goals in the first ten minutes from Tom Winters and Conor McDonagh set Banbury United on the way to a convincing 5-1 victory at home to Dorchester Town.

Mike Ford's team dominated Saturday's opening Evo-Stik South League Premier clash from the moment Winters put them ahead in the eighth minute from McDonagh's pinpoint cross.

Just two minutes later and it was 2-0 through McDonagh, who set up George Nash for the third goal.

Luke Carnell's header stretched the lead after the break and Jefferson Louis added a fifth before the visitors' late consolation.

Conor McDonagh scored one goal and set up two other in Banbury United's thumping victory

Banbury slip up against strugglers

CRICKET

BANBURY slipped to fourth place in Division 1 of the Home Counties Premier League after losing by three wickets at Slough.

The result lifted the hosts out of the relegation zone, while the visitors were leapfrogged by Finchampstead.

Banbury never recovered after choosing to bat and losing four early wickets.

The top order contributed just 33 runs between them as Slough took charge.

Richard West (41) and Jack Wilkins offered resistance, but it needed some strong hitting by Oliver Wright (25no) to take them to 170-7 from their 50 overs.

Aizaz Cheema struck early in Slough's reply, while West turned in an immaculate spell of 3-24 in ten overs as they slipped to 101-7.

But Lloyd Paternott (75no) dominated a seventh-wicket stand of 71 to see Slough home with an over to spare.

Banbury entertain second-placed Finchampstead this Saturday.

BANBURY

L Sabin b Nawaz	15
C Haupt c Paternott b Ahmed	12
O Clarke b Green	6
C Hill c Rana b Nawaz	0
R West lbw Sher	41
J Wilkins c Sher b Green	26
E Phillips c Rana b Ahmed	11
J Megson not out	16
O Wright not out	25
Extras	18
Total (7 wkts, 50 ovs)	170

Bowling: Nawaz 10-2-18-2, Ahmed 10-4-38-2, Raja 10-1-41-0, Green 10-1-26-2, Sher 10-0-38-1.

SLOUGH

F Qureshi b West	23
M Avas c Megson c Cheema	0
D Akhtar c Wilkins b West	26
L Paternott not out	75
Z Sher c&b Clarke	7
Z Ahmed c Megson b Sabin	2
F Baig c Haupt b West	4
S Green lbw Sabin	1
S Rana not out	18
Extras	16
Total (7 wkts, 49 ovs)	172

Fall: 1-9, 2-56, 3-59, 4-70, 5-84, 6-100, 7-101.

Bowling: Cheema 8-0-39-1, Taylor 6-2-19-0, Wright 8-0-24-0, West 10-0-24-3, Clarke 10-0-29-1, Sabin 7-2-32-2.

Banbury 6pts, Slough 20

Goode thrilled to take the reins

RUGBY UNION

MATT Goode says he is "delighted and honoured" to become head coach of his boyhood club Banbury, writes JACK JOHNSON.

The experienced centre, who will continue to play, replaces James Kerr, who steps down after six seasons in charge, but the Welshman stays on as a coach at the South West 1 East club.

Banbury have enjoyed success in recent years, securing promotion to the sixth tier of English rugby in 2016 and retaining the Oxfordshire Cup in April.

And Goode is looking forward to the challenge.

He said: "Having started my rugby career at Banbury aged six in 1990, I'm delighted and honoured to have been asked to lead the club's coaching structure for the 2017/18 season."

STARS with Claire Petulengro

Service provided by IMS Leeds LS1 8LB. Calls cost 60p per minute at all times

ARIES Mar 21-Apr 19

The planets line up this week to help you bring your love life and work life into sync. Things that were previously nothing more than a thorn in your side should soon be revealed to be prime opportunities to improve the quality of your life and that of your close ones. Be prepared for unexpected confrontations on Friday. Ring now to hear why I know this is a good thing.

0906 585 4360

TAURUS Apr 20-May 20

You are not really looking at the facts as they stand my friend. Instead you are listening to the hearsay that everyone around you is so keen to share. Don't believe any rumours, but act on facts and facts alone. For a sign that is usually so independent and confident, you are acting in a very needy manner. Maybe you need 'that' person back in your life? Ring now so we can talk.

0906 585 4361

GEMINI May 21-Jun 20

You may have to pretend you know more than you really do on Wednesday and Thursday when a work contact turns to you for back up on a change. This may lead to the exchange of finances you've been seeking. Watch what you say and do this weekend when an exhibitionist mood could see you leaving very little to the imagination. Ring now to hear why it may be best NOT to send texts on Sunday.

0906 585 4362

CANCER Jun 21-Jul 22

The more you are talking, the more you are revealing the truth and no one likes to be associated with a liar. A chance to catch up with an old business contact should give you many new ideas to think upon midweek and could also see you taking a long trip in the name of research. Money making ideas are good and they're all yours! Ring now to make every day ahead count.

0906 585 4363

LEO Jul 23-Aug 22

It's going to be very easy for you to tell those around you what is wrong with their lives. Although you may be right, you would be far better to let them find out under their own steam or you may just be landed with the blame. A loved one is in need of a little extra attention but it may mean you telling a white lie to someone. Ring to hear how arrogance works in your favour midweek.

0906 585 4364

VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

Don't let the very insistent attitude the stars will be placing over you push you into saying things that you do not mean (especially in love). You have plenty to keep you occupied over the coming days and it is only by giving into a childish and overcritical mood at the weekend that you will ruin what should actually be a very fun and memorable time for you. Ring now for sense to reign.

0906 585 4365

LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Your career is finally starting to take on a better and more suited shape for the life that you have been planning for yourself. An impatient manner over the last month has caused more than a few problems with some important relationships in your life. It is time to put the record straight and to make apologies where they are due. Ring now to hear how relationships can lead to major moves.

0906 585 4366

SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Money needs to be saved and any debts must be squared before your name starts to be bandied about for unreliability. One debt in particular is still awaiting payment and may well be doing your reputation far more damage than you first think. Sort it out as quickly and professionally as possible please. Ring now to hear how the Moon is ripe for reconciliations this weekend.

0906 585 4367

SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

The rather messy aspects on Sunday require tact and thought on your part. Patience and politeness can earn you many brownie points with a person that you were beginning to think you were on borrowed time with, but whom is now slowly beginning to fall for those very special and individual charms of yours. Ring now to why this is such a lucky week for finalising delayed deals.

0906 585 4368

CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

Sit down and think about what you want. You deserve a break and you must not allow the needs and requests of others to stop you from doing what you know is important to your independence. We all need to break away from time to time and to put ourselves first. If you don't then you will have no one to blame but yourself. Ring now to hear how solo career success is forecast.

0906 585 4369

AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

You have had a funny few weeks and you still seem to be reeling from the effects of the changes that close ones have made. You may well feel as if you have not really settled into the changes, but you would be wrong. You have adopted beautifully as the coming week will soon prove to you. Ring now to hear why it's worth keeping to all pre-booked appointments in the days ahead.

0906 585 4370

PISCES Feb 19-Mar 20

Many of your sign can find passion this weekend, but may find it hard to get your brain and heart to agree. The numbers three and eight are lucky for you, so write them down and use them in any speculations. You never know where it may lead! It could even link to an address or number you will know well. Ring now to hear why it's imperative you show more patience with older faces.

0906 585 4371

BanburyCake

Reader Offer

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Enjoy rest and relaxation in an unspoiled corner of Aphrodite's idyllic isle. With its exquisite, horseshoe-shaped harbour ringing blue waters and narrow, charming lanes giving way both east and west to a beautiful coastline on Northern Cyprus' sun-kissed coast, Kyrenia is as delightful a hideaway as any in the Mediterranean.

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- ✓ Seven nights' bed and breakfast accommodation at the The Ship Inn, Kyrenia – a range of other hotels are available at a supplement
- ✓ Join optional excursions at a supplement to divided city Nicosia, fascinating Famagusta or the stunning Karpaz peninsula
- ✓ Return flights to Cyprus
- ✓ Return airport-to-hotel transfers
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BanburyCake

Thursday, August 17, 2017

PROPERTY

Typical Stonewater affordable homes. Top, left to right, Stonewater's Arthur Gott and Chris Montague with Bellway's Alan Lee

Can you buy for what it costs you to rent?

Gill Oliver
gill.oliver@nqo.com

TENANTS are often told they can buy a property for the same amount they spend on rent.

Deals from the Government and house builders encourage renters to make the switch to home-owning.

Help to Buy allows both first-time buyers and those selling a property to take out a Government loan for 20 per cent of the price.

This means they need a 75 per cent mortgage and deposit of just five per cent.

But when translated into Oxfordshire's high-priced housing market, this is still a major hurdle.

To find the £228,000 needed for a two-bedroom apartment, applicants would need to put down £11,400 and take out a mortgage of £171,000.

A more affordable option is shared-ownership which allows a tenant to continue to rent a property, while buying a share in it.

As they buy a greater share, their rent gradually goes down until they own their home outright.

Under housing association Stonewater's shared ownership scheme a two-bedroom house in the north of the county costs £90,000 for a 40 per cent share.

As the market value of the property is £225,000, it means the tenant/part owner pays monthly rent of £309 and has the option to buy a bigger share when they chose.

Stonewater has shared housing at Deddington Grange in Deddington and Hanwell View, a 153-affordable-home scheme in Banbury in partnership with Cherwell DC and Bellway Homes.

It will provide 46 two- and three-bedroom homes for shared ownership and 107 one- and two-bedroom flats, houses and bungalows for affordable rent.

Another 91 new homes for affordable rent and shared ownership are provided at Chipping Norton by Stonewater.

Working with West Oxfordshire DC and Bellway it has 25 homes for low-cost shared ownership and 66 for affordable rent.

Another is Chestnut Gardens in Shrivenham, where it is possible to buy 40 per cent of a two-bedroom semi' for £98,000. For information, see stonewaterhomes.co.uk

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MARTIN&CO

Due to the proposals coming into place next year regarding the tenant fee ban it is more important than ever to use an agent. We at Martin & Co can assist you through these changes, and shield you from the worst of the effects.

There is likely to be a change in the behaviour of tenants, and rather than deciding to stay at the property which they live in, not having to pay tenant fees, will allow the tenants to freely move home without any costs, this would leave the landlords with an empty property and needing to find a new tenant quickly.

The proposed 4 week maximum deposit will also impact landlords. With only 4 weeks it is likely that there will be an increase in tenants not paying the final month's rent and simply disappearing, leaving the landlord with just the deposit to cover the rent and unable to cover the costs for any damage that may have been caused; and with the landlord potentially with a long winded and expensive court action to reclaim any damages, if the tenant can be traced.

This is why letting your property through us at Martin and Co is now so important. Tenants used to fall into two categories: those who wanted to use an agent and those who did not. Tenants usually preferred renting through agencies as it gave them security, peace of mind and a better chance that the property was regulated, safe and secure and maintained. The difference is that the cost was slightly higher with reference and administration charges.

Tenants who preferred renting privately usually will not be able to pass the checks put into place by the agencies to protect their clients (you the landlords) or they wished to act in a way that would not be preferred by the landlord and didn't want the checks that the agents take to uncover this behaviour. This is, most predominantly subletting.

If a tenant is deemed a bad tenant such as: consistent late rent payers; causes damage; breaks the tenancy agreement; upsets the neighbours; smokes in the house, causes a disturbance or worse still stays in the home not paying any rent forcing you to remove through the legal system at a significant loss of rental income, as well as bailiff, solicitor and court costs. This is almost certainly revealed at our admin and reference stage so that we can advise to reject this type of tenant for your property. If the tenant does pass our full and stringent tests then insurance is recommended to cover the eventuality of a personal or circumstance change during the term.

Having a good agency can definitely more than ever protect your investment, keep your property tenanted and steer you away from the tenants other landlords don't want. Remember in the long run the costs will be reflected in rents not from landlords or agents. Genuine tenants like having an office to come into and building a relationship with their agency. They appreciate the security that this brings and the help with overcoming problems. We believe that we are the most approachable agency in town. We are the only agency perfectly positioned at the centre of commerce to the front of Banbury's busiest shopping centre. We employ friendly knowledgeable staff that will help landlords and tenants through the minefield of renting.

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SALES

Bramble House

A four bedroom detached property with double garage situated to local schools; shops and amenities.
The property comprises entrance hall; cloakroom, lounge, dining room, study, kitchen / breakfast, four bedrooms with en-suite to master, family bathroom, front and rear gardens.

£400,000

Verney Road

A new to the market well presented spacious two bedroom apartment within walking distance to the town centre and train station. Master bedroom with ensuite. Second family bathroom. Allocated parking.

£160,000

St Mary's View

A 3 bedroom town house within walking distance to town center. Comprising; entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, C/R, family bathroom, 3 bedrooms with en-suite to master. Outside there is off road parking and rear courtyard garden.

£240,000

Merisham Court

A WELL PRESENTED GROUND FLOOR ONE BEDROOM RETIREMENT APARTMENT SITUATED JUST OUTSIDE OF BANBURY TOWN CENTRE. Comprises of; entrance hall, lounge/diner, bathroom, double bedroom, kitchen, airing cupboard and allocated parking for residents.

£139,995

High Acres, Banbury

An immaculate 4 bed detached property situated on the popular Cherwell Heights are of Banbury. Briefly comprising; Entrance hall, lounge, extended kitchen and dining room, downstairs cloakroom, 4 bedrooms with built in wardrobes and family bathroom. Outside benefits from ample off road parking, front and rear gardens and garage.

£350,000

Hobby Road

An immaculate 2 bedroom property situated in the popular Longford Park development. Comprising entrance hall, cloak room, kitchen, lounge/diner, two double bedrooms, bathroom, garage off road parking, front and rear gardens.

£240,000

Martin & Co Banbury
26a Castle Quay, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX16 5UN

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LETTINGS

Cricketers Fields

Martin & Co are pleased to present a selection of new two bedroom luxury apartments situated within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Available unfurnished with off road parking. Don't miss out on the chance to rent in a brand new development. Available for viewings from 27th May.

£795 pcm

7 Tarragon Walk

A spacious two bedroom apartment on the Hanwell Fields estate. This propery benefits from two double bedrooms and allocated parking and a garage. Fully fitted kitchen and spacious lounge. Double bedrooms. Good access for M40 links. Walking distance to the shops and schools. EPC rating: C

£825 pcm

Broughton Road

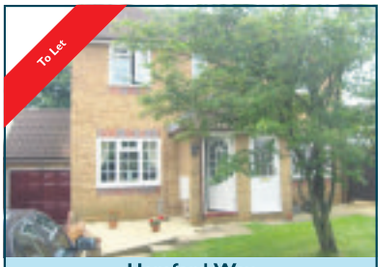
Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market one bedroom room in a shared house conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. The room benefits from a kitchenette area also. Ideal for a single professional.

£500 pcm

Room 2

Martin & Co are pleased to present a one bedroom fully furnished double room in a shared house conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station.

£450 pcm



Hereford Way

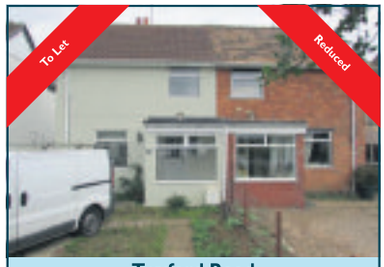
A new to the market 2 bedroom semi detached 2 bedroom house with garden and garage. The property comprises kitchen; living room; bathroom; two bedrooms; garage and driveway parking.

£825 pcm

Hereford Way

A new to the market three bedroom spacious bungalow with good size garden; plenty of parking and a garage. Conveniently situated in Hardwick for access to the town centre; local schools and shops. EPC Rating D.

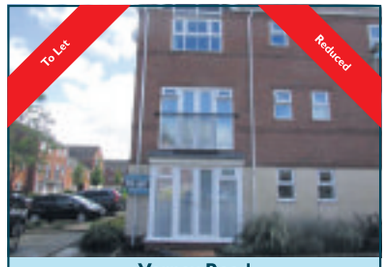
£950 pcm



Twyford Road

A three bedroom semi detached house situated in Twyford. The property has been renovated with a new kitchen; bathroom; carpets; appliances and redecorated throughout. The property has an entrance hall; living room; kitchen with fridge freezer and washing machine and cooker; bathroom, with a separate utility area. It has two double bedrooms and a third single bedroom.

£1000 pcm



Verney Road

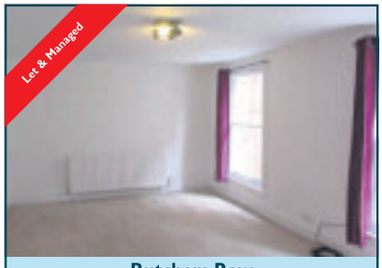
We are pleased to present a new to the market two bedroom ground floor flat with allocated parking and within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Spacious hallway entrance leads to two double bedrooms.

£750 pcm

Butterbur Gardens

We are pleased to present this, new to the market three bedroom house, in Bicester. This is an ideal family home and would suit a professional couple.

£1100 pcm



Butchers Row

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market three bedroom apartment in the town centre with allocated parking. The property comprises good size kitchen; living room; three bedrooms; bathroom with bath and shower. Available unfurnished. Conveniently situated within walking distance to the town centre and train station. EPC Rating: C

£825.00 pcm

Broome Way

A two bedroom flat within walking distance to the town centre and train station.

£740 pcm

Broome Way

A spacious two double bedroom flat within walking distance to the town centre and train station. Open plan kitchen and living room. Available unfurnished. Allocated parking available. EPC Rating D.

£725 pcm

Springfield Avenue

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market three / four bedroom semi detached house with off road parking and an enclosed rear garden. The property comprises a large kitchen with fridge freezer; living room; downstairs bedroom with separate bathroom and shower; upstairs there are three bedrooms and a family size bathroom. EPC Rating: D

£1150 pcm

Booth Road

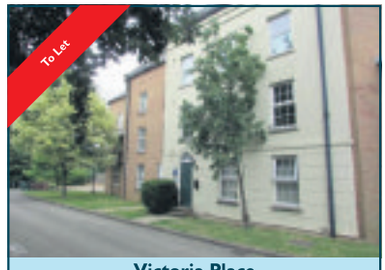
A fantastic two bedroom house available in Hanwell Fields. The property comprises; kitchen; living room; bathroom with bath and shower and two bedrooms. Allocated parking and close to local shops and schools and excellent transport links.

£850 pcm

Church Lane

We are pleased to present a new to the market three bedroom detached property situated in the village of Wroxton. The property is available immediately and comprises: kitchen; living room; three double bedrooms; bathroom with bath and shower and WC. The property also benefits from a garage; outbuildings for storage and driveway parking.

£1150 pcm



Victoria Place

Martin & Co are pleased to present a new to the market two bedroom apartment situated on the first floor. The property comprises kitchen with electric oven and washing machine; two double bedrooms with fitted wardrobes; living room and bathroom with bath and shower. The property is within walking distance to the train station and town centre. Available unfurnished.

£725 pcm

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Make best first impression for IT

WHEN it comes to your CV you have very limited space to convey your absolute greatness in IT. That's why it's so important to avoid these common errors.

1. Get the basics right. There's nothing more eye-rolling for a recruiter than seeing their name misspelt. Make triple sure the name and title are correct.

2. One size doesn't fit all. Firing out a standard CV to every application just isn't cricket. Whether it's an IT manager or a software developer, you need to read the job description and ensure your CV lays out why you're the perfect candidate.

3. Jilt the jargon. When talking about skills and experience don't waste space on empty statements such as "can-do attitude". Focus on specific achievements.

4. Lose the mugshot. There's no good reason to include a photograph. It's more likely to put off a potential employer as a badly taken shot can look amateurish.

5. Don't write a "Jackanory". Your CV should fit on to two A4 pages. Use more of the space for your more recent IT roles. Slash the full references, salary details and reasons for leaving previous jobs.

6. Leave out your hobbies and pastimes. Oh really, you enjoy socialising with friends and eating out! Who knew?

7. It's the little things. Make sure your email address is appropriate. Applications from hotstuff88 and lambrini girl are not doing you any favours. Same goes for the CV file. Saving it as CV6 or "improved CV" looks lame.

8. Check the format. Make sure the CV can be opened without a faff. If your attached document is harder to open than an old jam jar, your new boss might give up. Stick with Word or a PDF.

9. Don't rely on a spell-check to pick up howlers. Take a break and re-read with fresh eyes. Using a word twice or the wrong word will not be spotted by a computer so do it yourself.

10. Finally, make sure you send a copy of your tweaked-for-the-job CV to yourself so when you receive that call to interview, you're all on the same page.

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TO ADVERTISE ONLINE
banburycake.co.uk/advertise

5 TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR CV

1. Keep it between 2 and 3 pages
Any more and it looks like you're rambling.
Any less and it looks like you don't care.

2. Keep it clear and easy to read
Curb your creative juices.
Use bullet points and keep sentences short.

3. Always use a cover letter and tailor your CV
Research the company and use the job advert to ensure you stand out as the perfect candidate.

4. 'Pobody's perfect'
But there's not a single reason your CV should have grammar or spelling mistakes.

5. Tell the truth
Porky pies will only ever come back to bite you.

Or if you need a helping hand, head to our cv services at **ox1jobs.com**

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11 PROPERTY

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8 PUBLIC NOTICES

Announcements - Public Notices

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

PROPOSED CHANGE OF AGE RANGE AT HARDWICK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Notice is given in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 that Oxfordshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Hardwick Primary School, Ferriston, Banbury, OX16 1XE from 01 January 2018.

The Local Authority, working with the Governing Body of the school, is proposing to alter Hardwick Primary School's age range from 4-11 to 2-11. This change will enable to school to take over and continue the early years and childcare provision on the site, previously run separately by the Children's Centre, which has closed.

This Notice is an extract from the full proposal, which can be viewed under the Current Consultations listings on the Oxfordshire County Council public website at **http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation**. Copies can also be requested by contacting:

Diane Cameron (School Organisation Officer)
Tel: 07795301254 or
Email: diane.cameron@oxfordshire.gov.uk
Oxfordshire County Council, Education Sufficiency & Access, 4th Floor, County Hall, New Road, Oxford OX1 1ND

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this Notice, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Local Authority using the online feedback form located on the Oxfordshire County Council website as detailed above, or by email or post to the above addresses.

Signed: Lucy Butler, Director of Children's Services
Publication Date: 14 September 2017

Announcements - Public Notices

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14(1)

Notice of Temporary Traffic Order
Bodicote, Church Street
Prohibition of Through Traffic
Date of Order: 14 August 2017
Coming into force: 21 August 2017

This Order is being introduced because of sewer repair works which are anticipated to take 12 days to complete. The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding in the section of Church Street from Town Furlong (north junction) northwards to East Street. Appropriate traffic signs will be displayed to indicate when the measures are in force. Exemptions are included for emergency services and for the works and for access to premises which are only accessible from the closed section of road. The alternative route for traffic is via East Street – Lower Close – Freemans Road and vice-versa.

This Order will remain in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works have been completed whichever is the sooner.

Traffic Regulations Team (Ref:T5055/AC)
for the Director for Infrastructure Delivery,
County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND. 0345 310 1111.

10 MOTORS

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CHOOSE YOUR DEAL
SAVE **£3,436** WAS £13,425
+£162 DEPOSIT | **5.3% APR** REPRESENTATIVE

BRAND NEW
ASTRA SRI 1.4

EDEN EXCLUSIVE PRICE **NOW £14,991**
47 PAYMENTS **£224** PER MONTH*
CHOOSE YOUR DEAL
SAVE **£4,144** WAS £19,135
+£224 DEPOSIT | **4.2% APR** REPRESENTATIVE

BRAND NEW
MOKKA X ACTIVE 1.6

EDEN EXCLUSIVE PRICE **NOW £15,477**
47 PAYMENTS **£243** PER MONTH*
CHOOSE YOUR DEAL
SAVE **£5,043** WAS £20,520
+£243 DEPOSIT | **4.2% APR** REPRESENTATIVE

PRE-REGISTERED 17 PLATE DELIVERY MILEAGE
VIVA SE
Bluetooth, Cruise Control & Lane Departure Warning
SAVE £1,846 OFF RRP
£99 PER MONTH + **£99** DEPOSIT | **0%** APR

PRE-REGISTERED 17 PLATE DELIVERY MILEAGE
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2014 MOKKA SE
Full Leather Interior
£169 PER MONTH + **£169** DEPOSIT | **0%** APR

2016 INSIGNIA 1.8 SRi NAV
European Sat Nav Included
£179 PER MONTH + **£179** DEPOSIT | **0%** APR

OPEN UNTIL 9PM TUESDAY AND THURSDAY

Eden Vauxhall Banbury
Beaumont Road | OX16 1RH
Tel: 01295 755400

Eden Vauxhall Oxford
Oxford Motor Park | OX5 1RY
Tel: 01865 856500

Sales Opening Hours
08:30-19:00 Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday | 08:30-21:00 Tuesday and Thursday

Mokka X 1.6 Active RRP £17,895 - Customer Deposit £243 – Eden Vauxhall deposit contribution £2400 - Total amount of credit £15,252 – 47 monthly payments of £243 – Optional final payment £5,543 – 4.2% APR Representative on Personal Contract Plan - Total amount payable £19,607 based on 5,000 miles contract duration (other mileages available). Astra 1.4 SRi RRP £16,995 - Customer Deposit £224 – Eden Vauxhall deposit contribution £2000 - Total amount of credit £14,771 – 47 monthly payments of £224 – Optional final payment £5,946 – 4.2% APR Representative on Personal Contract Plan - Total amount payable £18,698 based on 5,000 miles contract duration (other mileages available). Corsa 1.4 Energy RRP £11,795 - Customer Deposit £162 – Eden Vauxhall deposit contribution £1800 - Total amount of credit £9,833 – 47 monthly payments of £162 – Optional final payment £3,604 – 5.3% APR Representative on Personal Contract Plan - Total amount payable £13,180 based on 5,000 miles contract duration (other mileages available). Viva SE RRP £10,635 – Now £9,089 – Save £1,846– Customer deposit £119 – Total amount of credit £7,820 – 49 monthly payments of £99 – Optional final payment £2,969 – 0% APR – total amount payable £7,919 based on 6,000 miles contract duration (other mileages available). Corsa 1.4 Sting RRP £10,516 - Eden offer price £8,970 - Customer Deposit £119 - Total amount of credit £8,851 – 47 monthly payments of £119 with a final optional payment £3,258 – 0% APR Personal Contract Plan - Total amount payable £8,970 based on 6,000 miles contract duration (other mileages available). [1]Scrappage allowance is regardless of age, condition or mileage however, it must be driveable and in your ownership for at least 6 months – this offer is available on selected vehicles only and subject to Eden Vauxhall availability. The minimum part exchange scrappage allowance is as part of a Vauxhall finance agreement and supersedes any other offers that may coincide. Finance subject to status. Terms & Conditions apply. 18's and over. Guarantee may be required. We are a credit broker not a lender for these financial promotions. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Excess mileage will be charged on the above vehicles, other mileages are available. Images used for illustration purposes only, specifications may vary. For further details please contact your local Eden Vauxhall branch. Offer ends 30th September 2017.

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